

César Manrique, an artist from Lanzarote

Read the text about César Manrique and do the activities below:

Who was César Manrique?

César Manrique is a famous artist from Lanzarote, Spain. He was born in 1919 and died in 1992. He was an architect, sculptor, and painter. He created many beautiful works of art and sculptures on the island.

Manrique was passionate about protecting the environment. He worked to keep the island clean and unspoiled. He also designed parks and gardens. He believed that nature should be respected and celebrated.

Manrique created the Jameos del Agua, a unique underground cave with a pool, restaurant, and auditorium, in the north of Lanzarote. He also built the Mirador del Rio, a lookout point with amazing views of the sea.

In 1993, the César Manrique Foundation was established to continue his work. The foundation works to promote and protect the natural beauty of the island. It also promotes art and culture.

Today, tourists come to Lanzarote to see the works of Manrique. They can visit his parks, sculptures, and other works of art. His legacy will live on forever.

1. Complete the sentences with the correct word:

1. César Manrique was born in …….
2. Manrique designed parks and gardens to keep the island ……. and unspoiled.
3. The Jameos del Agua is in …….
4. The César Manrique Foundation was created in …….
5. Manrique believed that ……. should be respected and celebrated.
6. Manrique built the Mirador del Rio to provide amazing views of a …….
7. Manrique was an ……., sculptor, and painter.
8. The César Manrique Foundation works to promote ……. and culture.

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10 key facts about César Manrique



1. César Manrique was a Spanish artist, architect and environmentalist.
2. He was born in Arrecife, Lanzarote but he also lived in several other places, like Madrid or New York.
3. He designed several cultural spots and exhibitions in Lanzarote. "El Monumento al campesino" is one of the most popular.
4. Manrique loved volcanic landscapes and incorporated them into his work.



5. He developed a style that blended nature and urbanisation.
6. He created "El Jardín de Cactus": A beautiful cactus garden showcasing a wide variety of cactus species.
7. He built Jameos del Agua: A unique space created within a volcanic tunnel.
8. Manrique advocated for the protection of the environment.
9. He was awarded with the gold medal of meritorious of Tourism by the Government of Spain.
10. He passed away in September 1992 in an accidental car crash.

1. Choose the correct option:

1. Where did César Manrique live?
a) In Madrid
b) In Barcelona, Arrecife and New York
c) In the Canary Islands
d) In Lanzarote, Madrid and New York

2. What type of landscape did César Manrique love and incorporate into his work?
a) Forests
b) Deserts
c) Volcanic landscapes
d) Snowy mountains

3. What elements did he incorporate in his work?
a) Volcanos and means of transport
b) Food and mountains
c) Buildings and animals
d) Nature and urbanization

4. In "El jardín de cactus" you can see...
a) many types of cactus.
b) a lot of cactus of the same type
c) cactus and many types of palm trees
d) many animals and some cactus

5. Where did he build "Jameos del Agua"?
a) In a garden
b) In a volcanic tunnel
c) In the crater of a volcano
d) In Gran Canaria

6. What cause did César Manrique defend?
a) Promotion of war
b) Protection of the environment
c) Indiscriminate exploitation of natural resources
d) Uncontrolled urbanization

7. What recognition did César Manrique receive from the Government of Spain?
a) Nobel Peace Prize
b) Gold Medal for Tourism Merit
c) Knight of the Order of Isabella the Catholic
d) Prince of Asturias Award

8. What was the cause of César Manrique's death?
a) Terminal illness
b) Murder
c) Car accident
d) Natural death

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